STORMWATCH: TEAM ACHILLES #18

"THE SUPER PATRIOT"

by

Micah Ian Wright

First Draft 9/23/03

Wildstorm Comics
888 Prospect Avenue
La Jolla, CA 92037

StormWatch: Team Achilles
#18 “The Super Patriot”
Written by Micah Ian Wright
First Draft
September 23, 2003

PAGE 1

PANEL ONE

Overhead shot, Galena Golovin fires downwards from the US Capitol Cupola.

GOLOVIN
Nu vse, tebe pizda! Bring it on, Sons of Bitch! Galena has much of the hot metal for you!

PANEL TWO

POV from amongst the crowd of Suiciders. They run towards the Capitol Building, firing madly, killing Capitol Policemen, running secretaries, guys in suits, etc. Let’s get a good crowd shot here.

NO DIALOG

PAGE 2

PANEL ONE

Pinckney steps out onto a round, downwards-sloping stone dome.

PINCKNEY (OVER RADIO)
Hello, Miss Golovin. Your backup is here.

GOLOVIN
Goddamn, Pinckney, is about time! Where are you?

PINCKNEY (OVER RADIO)
I had to find some nearby high ground. The teleporter's having trouble getting to your location.

GOLOVIN
Whatever. Help me kill these men!

PANEL TWO

Exterior Shot, The National Gallery West Building. Pinckney is crouching down into the prone firing position pointing his rifle downwards, the forelegs of his Galatz resting on the curve of the dome.

PINCKNEY
Where should I start?

GOLOVIN (OVER RADIO)
Twenty meters out from my Two O'Clock. Clear a Path for Tefibi.

PINCKNEY
I have a bead on him. I'll take your three to nine, you take ten to one.

PANEL THREE

Khalid stands frozen in the middle of a crowd of Suiciders, his hands up at his shoulders, his project-entry gun dangling upside down on his finger from the trigger guard. The Suiciders point their weapons at him.

TEFIBI
(small font, to himself)
Fucking Santini and this no plan bullshit. I always knew it was going to end this way.

SUICIDER
He's a StormWatcher!

TEFIBI
I come in Peace?

2 CONTINUED:

SUICIDER #2

Kill Him!

PANEL FOUR

The gathered Suiciders drop like flies, their brains exiting their bodies at high speed (in two distinct directions - crossfire). Tefibi waits, hands in the air, eyes closed tight, terrified.

SOUND E/FX

Chokk! Chokk! Chokk! Thaapk! Thaapk! Thaapk!

PAGE 3

PANEL ONE

Tefibi opens his eyes and is ecstatically happy.

TEFIBI
Huh? Yeah! That’s right, you computer geek motherfuckers, you messed with the wrong team this time!

PINCKNEY (OVER RADIO)
I say, Old Man, you might want to shake a leg there. These fellows have a nasty habit of getting back up after we shoot them.

PANEL TWO

Sure enough, a bunch of the dead Suiciders stagger to their knees and/or drag themselves across the grass towards Tefibi.

TEFIBI
Fuck me!

PANEL THREE

Tefibi runs, head down, like a football halfback. To his left and right, Suiciders’ heads and chests explode like overripe watermelons.

TEFIBI (cont’d)
Get me the fucking fuck out of here!

SOUND E/FX
Shhhwakkt! Thhhmp! Shhhwaaak!

PANEL FOUR

Citizen Soldier watches the running-away Tefibi from a distance. He points above and behind him towards the Cupola.

CITIZEN SOLDIER
Ignore him! Take out the snipers! Up there!

PAGE 4

PANEL ONE

Golovin huddles in a tiny ball. The cupola around her is torn to pieces by HEAVY incoming Machine Gun fire.

GOLOVIN
Tefibi, I’m pinned down, open a Project Entry Portal for me, NOW!

PANEL TWO

Tefibi behind a huge tree on the Washington Mall.

TEFIBI
Uh, that’s going to be kinda hard, Major.

GOLOVIN (OVER RADIO)
Fuck your excuses! Do it!

TEFIBI
Yeah, problem there is that there’s no Capitol Dome left in the Project Entry Universe so if you go through, you’ll fall 300 feet to your death.

PANEL THREE

Golovin. Pieces of metal fly past her face.

GOLOVIN
Durak! Do something or I die, fool!

TEFIBI (OVER RADIO)
Can you do a two meter standing broad jump?

GOLOVIN
If that’s the only way out of here, then yes!

TEFIBI (OVER RADIO)
Then go for it. Has to be two meters or you’re in trouble.

PANEL FOUR

A Project Entry Portal is open ahead of Golovin. She’s springing up from her crouched position, sprinting towards the blue circle.

GOLOVIN
Rrrrrraaaaaahhhh!

PAGE 5

PANEL ONE

Small panel. Project Entry Universe. Directly side-shot-on. A blue Project Entry Portal shines in mid-air. Golovin emerges from it in mid-jump.

GOLOVIN

-aaaahhh!

PANEL TWO

Small panel. C/Up on Golovin's face. She's looking down, terrified.

GOLOVIN

Stalin's Balls!

PANEL THREE

HUGE PANEL. Pull out and up. Downshot from about 250 feet up, Golovin is flying through the air, towards another, lower Project Entry Portal, about twelve feet from the other portal, 30 feet lower. She's essentially running through the air like a Road Runner cartoon.

Below her is the smoking, burning ruin of the Project Entry Capitol Dome and a big fall down.

NO DIALOG

PAGE 6

PANEL ONE

Flailing wildly, Golovin barely makes it through the glowing blue circle...

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

Golovin is dumped from a PEP five feet above the grass of the Washington Mall.

GOLOVIN
-aaaaaaaaaahhh!

PANEL THREE

She hits the ground and rolls.

GOLOVIN
Whoouuugh!

PANEL FOUR

Tefibi reaches down to help Golovin to her feet.

TEFIBI
Evac reciprocated. Now what?

GOLOVIN
Now I need a new weapon and orders. Where is Colonel Santini?

TEFIBI
Errr... he’s a bit busy right now...

PAGE 7

PANEL ONE

Exterior of the Supreme Court, the Superheroes and Santini are arguing. Flint stands behind Santini, ready to step in. This is the Homeland Security Squadron, Version 2.0. They have HSS (with nazi-like SS's) on their chests.

The New Team is posed like a bunch of idiots. Next to their drawings are their names: (1) GIANT in his new David Lee Roth assless chaps/purple leather vest costume, (2) JANNISARY wearing a 1990's Image-Comics-Battle Thong, (3) RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE, a guy covered in so many knives that he must cut himself every time he moves, (4) PSYCHIK GRRRL, a 'tough' 80's X-Men type with a mohawk, and (5) HEXEBUS, an obvious ripoff of lame 90's Batman spinoff Azrael.

SANTINI
-Look, all I'm asking is that you guys stay the fuck out of the buildings! Leave any hostages for DC SWAT and FBI Hostage Rescue Teams!

GIANT
And I'm telling you that you don't give the orders here, chum! THE HOMELAND SECURITY SQUADRON are here to grease these UNAMERICAN Terrorists and I don't who gets hurt doing it!

PANEL TWO

Giant and Santini chin-to-forehead (Giant's big, see issue #3).

SANTINI
If you go smashing through the Capitol Building looking for these guys, you're going to end up killing far more hostages than you do Terrorists. Remember your brilliant rescue job at the United Nations?

GIANT
Hey, screw the UN! Those UnAmerican Fucks had it coming to them!

PANEL THREE

Santini grins like he's just blown a fuse. Giant is smug.

SANTINI
(small font)
Screw the UN. Okay.

SANTINI
Tell you what, knock yourselves out, guys. Go crazy. Defend America. One question first.

7 CONTINUED:

GIANT
What? You sweet on me? You want my number?

SANTINI
How long's it been since you got a good night's sleep? Five days? Six days? You think you're at your best? I'd be amazed if you're not seeing and hearing shit that isn't there.

PANEL FOUR

Santini points at the HSS.

SANTINI
And here's the kicker, GIANT... do you feel safe with that team of wanna-be's tagging along behind you? Look at that guy with the knives all over him.

SANTINI
He already looks half INSANE. Do you trust that HE'S not seeing shit? That HE'S going to be able to tell the difference between a Congressman and a Terrorist? Or YOU?

PAGE 8

PANEL ONE

Jaeger and Jukko stand off to the side, shooting three attacking Suiciders dead.

JAEGER
Are they STILL arguing?

JUKKO
I hope so. I still remember the last time that idiot tried to "HELP" us with hostages and killed half of them.

PANEL TWO

The suiciders are dead/undead. Their corpses crawl toward Jukko and Jaeger.

JAEGER
How are you holding up, pain-wise?

TEFIBI
Pretty well. When we shoot the undead ones there's a strange sensation, like it's taking pain AWAY from me.

PANEL THREE

The two StormWatchers fire into the crawling zombies.

JUKKO
In a way, it feels good... I should bring some of these things back to New York to shoot when I want to rest. Damn! Hold these things off, I need to speak to Santini.

JAEGER
To see if you can stop him from killing them?

JUKKO
Why bother?

PANEL FOUR

In the distance, Jukko runs towards Santini. GIANT is unnerved.

JUKKO
Colonel Santini!

GIANT
Get behind me! They're attacking!

8 CONTINUED:

SANTINI
Uh... that’s one of MY men, so calm the hell down. Go home and get some sleep, Junior.

GIANT
(small font, talking to himself)
Oh, yeah, it’s the Ugly One. I remember him now.

PAGE 9

PANEL ONE

Jukko & Santini. GIANT off to the edge of the panel holds up a hand to get their attention.

JUKKO
Sir, There's a weird feedback loop around these corpses which negates my pain-absorption. If I concentrate hard enough on the variances in incoming pain signals, I belive I could hone in on the person who is reanimating these dead bodies.

SANTINI
Take Jaeger and go see if you can punch this guy's ticket.

GIANT
Hold up. I'm sending some of my people with you. HEXEBUS! RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE! Front and Center!

PANEL TWO

Giant issues orders to Hexebus and RipSlashBloodClawMaimBlade. Hexebus stands in a bent-over curl like Azrael always did. RipSlash sharpens the various knives on his hands with a whetstone.

GIANT
Go with these two foreigners and kill whoever they find that's... uh... y'know. Doing bad stuff.

RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE
That's what I do best. And I'm the best there is as what needs to be done best!

PANEL THREE

Jukko makes a pained face. Santini shrugs.

JUKKO
RipSlashBloodClawMaimBlade? Shouldn't there be at "Death" or a "Kill" in there somewhere?

SANTINI
Yeah, I know... it feels kinda lacking. Look, we're here as guests. Humor them. If they get between you and the target, well, don't cry a river about what has to be done.

9 CONTINUED:

PANEL FOUR

Jukko smiles. Ewww!

JUKKO
I believe I understand your meaning, sir.

PAGE 10

PANEL ONE

Jukko rejoins Jaeger, who’s on guard against Suicider attacks.

JUKKO
We’re tasked to find and eliminate their reanimator.

JAEGER
Reanimator?

JUKKO
The monster who’s making these dead bodies get up and walk.

PANEL TWO

Jaeger points towards RipSlah & Hexebus who pose menacingly nearby.

JAEGER
What about them?

JUKKO
Good Neighbor Policy. They’re coming with us, but they’re expendable.

JAEGER
Glad to hear it. Where to?

PANEL THREE

Jukko grimaces and closes his eyes.

JUKKO
I’m trying to focus on the nexus of the pain sensation, but I can’t... Here, hold on.

PANEL FOUR

Jukko sprays the two undead Suiciders with machine gun fire.

SOUND E/FX
Brak Brak Brak Brak

PANEL FIVE

Jukko points to the mass of Suiciders swarming the Capitol.

JUKKO
That way. Inside the Capitol building.

JAEGER
Never the easy way with you, is it?

PAGE 11

PANEL ONE

Jukko addresses Hexebus, who's hunched over in one of those Azrael poses that Joe Quesada always drew, and RipSlashBlahBlah. Knives have popped out of his fingertips. He smiles. His teeth are all sharpened knife blades.

JUKKO
Can either of you fly?

HEXEBUS/RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE
No.

JUKKO
Can either of you teleport us inside that building?

HEXEBUS/RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE
No.

JUKKO
Well, what can you do?

PANEL TWO

Hexebus wiggles his fingers, flames dance about. RipShlash's fingers have turned into knives.

HEXEBUS
Burn. Burn them. Burn them up. Pretty fire burns.

RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE
Carve them. Better than anyone else. It's what I do best. I do it really good.

JUKKO
Okay. Then let's go... we need a path to the Capitol Building.

PANEL THREE

Jukko and Jaeger watch as Hexebus and RipSlash run off towards the capitol dome.

JAEGER
Why not just shoot them now?

JUKKO
Heh.

11 CONTINUED:

JAEGER
No, seriously. They are only going to impede our progress later. Besides, I don’t trust them... or their kind.

PANEL FOUR

Jukko stares at Jaeger with a mean look.

JUKKO
I’ll ask that you always remember that I am of “their kind.”

JAEGER
I don’t mean you. I mean the bad ones. You’re one of the good ones.

PANEL FIVE

Small panel. Jukko reacts.

JUKKO
“One of the good ones?”

PANEL SIX

Jaeger digs the hole deeper. Jukko is uncomfortable.

JAEGER
Besides, you don’t want to be one of them, anyway. You want to be one of us.

JUKKO
This is one of the most uncomfortable conversations I’ve ever been involved in. Can we go now?

PAGE 12

PANEL ONE

The StormWatchers turn towards the Capitol Building. The lawn before them on the left is filled with bleeding, chopped and severed Suiciders. The right side is filled with blackened charcoal lumps that used to be Suiciders.

JAEGER
Looks clear.

PANEL TWO

Jaeger and Jukko run towards Congress.

NO DIALOG

PANEL THREE

Pinckney atop the building. A PE Portal open behind him, Santini, Tefibi & Golovin stepping out. Golovin has a new sniper rifle, a PSG1 with a wicked-huge scope on it.

TEFIBI
Sorry we're late. We had to stop off in New York to re-arm.

PINCKNEY
What happened to your 50-cal, Galena?

GOLOVIN
Still atop the capitol dome. Perhaps when this is all over, I can retrieve it.

PANEL FOUR

Santini walks out of a PE Portal just as huge explosion takes out the very top of the Capitol Dome in the background.

SANTINI
Not likely. I couldn't keep the Spandex Brigade in check any longer. I'll be amazed if the place is still standing in an hour.

PAGE 13

PANEL ONE

The HSS is embroiled in a huge battle with the Suiciders outside the Capitol.

Go crazy.

Some ideas: GIANT smashes his fist through a Suicider's head. JANNISARY uses her electro-whips to tear the heads off of two Suiciders. Waves of energy emanate from PSYCHIK GRRL's hands as she literally rips a Suicider in two without touching him. Bullets from his rifle are stopped by similar "force waves."

This should be really brutal and sick... the image of what real superheroes who could tear people apart would really look like. Be sure they're covered in blood & entrails.

PANEL TWO

The HSS is getting mobbed by Suiciders, alive & dead, piling all over them. Giant's arms and being pulled back by groups of Suiciders.

PSYCHIK GRRL
Too many! Giant! Help Me!

GIANT
Got my own problems, here, babe!

PANEL THREE

Giant swings his arms together (the way the Hulk always used to do), creating a massive sonic boom and flinging Suiciders everywhere.

SOUND E/FX
Krraaaaaaaaak!

PANEL FOUR

Overhead shot. A wave of force emanates from GIANT, pushing through the crowd of Suiciders, bowling them over in a rough semicircle heading for the capitol building (think of that scene of Sauron smacking dudes with his club in Fellowship of the Ring).

SOUND E/FX
WhoooooooooooooooooooM.

PAGE 14

PANEL ONE

Inside the Capitol Building. The fake Senator Sonny Terns and his hot, slutty “Administrative Aide” watch the fight outside.

AIDE
Senator, who are those men in the exercise costumes?

SENATOR TERNS
Some kind of long-underwear superfolks league, I think.

PANEL TWO

Terns shoves his Aide to the ground as the window above them EXPLODES in a hail of glass from the force of GIANT’s hand-slap.

SOUND E/FX
(sonic boom outside)
Kraaaak-kooooom!

SENATOR TERNS
DOWN!

SOUND E/FX
(glass)
Kraaash!

AIDE
Eeeeeeeeeehn!

PANEL THREE

The Senator atop his Aide, his face close to her luscious breasts. She’s excited by the action.

AIDE
Oh, Senator, you’ve saved me!

SENATOR TERNS
And I know just how you can reward me, Doreen.

AIDE
Sonny Terns, you’re just awful!

CITIZEN SOLDIER (O.S.)
Yes, he is, isn’t he?

SENATOR TERNS
Who the-

14 CONTINUED:

PANEL FOUR

Camera behind the “Senator” and his Aide getting up. In the doorway beyond them stands Citizen Soldier.

CITIZEN SOLDIER
Why Senator Terns, I’m disappointed that you don’t remember me. After all...

PANEL FIVE

Inset panel. Citizen Soldier gets up in Terns’ face. He’s shouting, Hella Pissed.

CITIZEN SOLDIER
You *KILLED* me ***TWICE***!

SENATOR TERNS
I did?

PAGE 15

PANEL ONE

Terns is terrified. He pulls his Colonel Sanders string tie loose. Citizen Soldier is not amused.

SENATOR TERNS
Look, you're not going to want to believe what I've got to say, but I'm NOT Senator Sonny Terns-

CITIZEN SOLDIER
You've had since 1948 to get ready for this moment and THAT was the best you could come up with?

PANEL TWO

Citizen Soldier shoots Terns in the head. His assistant screams, blood getting on her.

CITIZEN SOLDIER
Pathetic.

SOUND E/FX
Krack!

SENATOR TERNS
Hurkk!

AIDE
Eeeeeeeeee!

PANEL THREE

The Senator's Aide runs out the door. The Senator stares at the Senator's lifeless body with a disappointed look on his face.

AIDE
Somebody help, he's killed the Senator!

CITIZEN SOLDIER
Strange. I thought that would be more satisfying.

PANEL FOUR

Reaction shot on Citizen Soldier, horrified by what he's seeing OFF-PANEL.

SENATOR TERNS
Hurk Hurk HURRRRRK (big font) HURRRRRRRRKKK

PAGE 16

PANEL ONE

Terns' body flops about, arching his back far off the floor. Extra limbs grow from his torso, tearing through his clothes. Imagine the Senator was something out of John Carpenter's THE THING. The forehead is cracked up from the gunshot still.

SENATOR TERNS
Hurkkkkk!

PANEL TWO

Small panel. Sonny Terns' face, but all melty like a doll in the oven. Leave Terns' clothes for these next few scenes.

SENATOR TERNS
Hikurrk

PANEL THREE

22-year old African kid from South Africa. Dark dark dark skin, pronounced features... think Taye Diggs, not Billy Dee Williams. This is the Senator Terns shape-shifting imitator guy's real face.

SENATOR TERNS
Hooork

PANEL FOUR

He looks like Citizen Soldier, coughing blood.

SENATOR TERNS
Kaff!

CITIZEN SOLDIER (O.S.)
What in God's name?

PANEL FIVE

Ben Santini's face.

SENATOR TERNS
Kack

CITIZEN SOLDIER
Santini!

PANEL SIX

And back to Senator Terns. And he's dead, eyes rolled back in his head. Citizen Soldier bends down over him, checking his pulse.

16 CONTINUED:

CITIZEN SOLDIER

Dead. But if you're not the real Terns... dammit, Santini, what kind of game are you running?

PAGE 17

PANEL ONE

Jaeger and Jukko in the National Statuary Hall, firing bullets at a mass of living and undead Suiciders. They are back to back with RipClaw and Hexebus who are going buck-wild on the Suiciders. RipSlash kicks out with a leg turned into a huge sword, splitting a guy from his groin to chest. Hexebus burns people to ash.

JAEGER
Are we there yet?

JUKKO
Behind that door, I think.

PANEL TWO

JUKKO
Move!

PANEL FOUR

Jukko tackles Jukko as a HUGE blade sweeps over their heads.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

Pull out. It's one of RipSlash's arms, turned into a giant knife and it's stuck midway through Hexebus. RipSlash's other arm has several Suiciders impaled upon it.

RIPSLASHBLOODCLAWMAIMBLADE
Uh-Oh.

JAEGER
Is this part of what you do best, you team-killing moron?

JUKKO
If he's dead, we're in big trouble.

PAGE 18

PANEL ONE

Jukko & Jaeger roll aside in one another's arms as the newly-dead Hexebus breathes flame all over RipSlash.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

All that remains is RipSlash's skeleton. It's made up of knives & razors & scissors & other sharp shit.

JAEGER
Don't think anyone's going to be reanimating THAT.

DEADHEAD (O.S.)
Oh, I don't know...

PANEL THREE

Reverse shot on Deadhead. Give him a Mexican Day of the Dead motif. Scary Grinning Skull with bright BLUE eyes inside. Either a black body suit with a skeleton painted onto it... or maybe like THE VISIBLE MAN toy from when we were kids... translucent skin & you can see his organs. Either way, his face should be a Day of the Dead type grinny skull.

DEADHEAD
I can pretty much reanimate anything. Deadhead's the name. Playing with dead people's my game.

PANEL FOUR

Jukko and Jaeger open fire. He does the bullet dance.

DEADHEAD
Agggghh!

PANEL FIVE

He's still standing. Snarling.

DEADHEAD
That hurt, you shitty little pissants!

PAGE 19

PANEL ONE

Several Suiciders seize J & J from behind, pinning their arms & legs. Hexebus stands by Deadhead.

DEADHEAD
I was going to kill you quick and leave you dead... Citizen Soldier said you deserved that much. But now?

PANEL TWO

The Suiciders have pushed them close to Deadhead. He leers at them from behind his mask.

DEADHEAD
Now I'm going to have your dead superfriend here char you to death, then I'll revive your bodies so you can feel your crispy bodies snapping to pieces. Then I'm going to make you kill your friends while you watch from the inside.

JAEGER
Why aren't you dead, Filth? I thought the SPBs that Citizen Soldier created only live for 20 minutes? We fought you weeks ago.

PANEL THREE

Deadhead cavorts even closer to Jukko & Jaeger.

DEADHEAD
Who said he made me, tin man? He's got a couple of REAL Super People on his team. The emotion guy, the teleport guy, me. Others.

JUKKO
Are they all as disgusting as you?

PANEL FOUR

C/U on angry Deadhead getting right in Jukko's face.

DEADHEAD
WHAT?

JUKKO
Your power is disgusting and evil. These people are dead. They should be allowed to rest in peace.

DEADHEAD
What do YOU know about Death, ugly?

19 CONTINUED:

PANEL FIVE

Jukko looks haunted.

JUKKO
Too much.

JUKKO
I only wish I could show you the pain that you've inflicted on all these people.

PANEL SIX

Tiny panel, inset. The panel from issue #8. A small spark leaps from Jukko's finger to Deadhead's face. VERY SMALL.

NO DIALOG

PAGE 20

PANEL ONE

Big panel. Deadhead screams, eyes rolling back in his skull.

You know those photomosaic posters where they form an image out of thousands of other, tinier images using computer color-matching software?

That's kind of what I'm thinking for this panel, but instead of other photos, just use little dead Suiciders and Congressmen and cops and Hexebus for more of a pointillism effect making up Deadhead's face. I'm including some reference samples.

PANEL TWO

Small panel, half page wide. Deadhead falls over. Is he dead? How could he be? He was already dead, right? Smoke comes out of his eye sockets. Jukko stands, Jaeger is on the floor, weighed down by dead Suiciders.

NO DIALOG

PANEL THREE

Small panel, half page wide. Outside, all of the Suicider Zombies fall down dead. A few scattered living Suiciders continue to fire at GIANT and Jannisary.

GIANT
Huh? What happened?

PANEL FOUR

Santini looking through binocs at the burning Capitol Dome and the corpses spread around.

SANTINI
Citizen Soldier's plan just went to hell.
Jukko and Jaeger must have gotten through to
his reanimator-

PAGE 21

PANEL ONE

Jukko holds out his hand to help Jaeger to his feet. Jaeger recoils in horror, scurrying backwards like a crab past the still form of Deadhead, pointing his rifle at Jukko.

SANTINI (CAPTION)
-Those two are a couple of real team players.

JAEGER
DON'T TOUCH ME!

PANEL TWO

Santini smiling in the midground. Tefibi excited in the foreground.

TEFIBI
I've got Citizen Soldier's teleport signature! He's running!

SANTINI
Track him. We've got a narrow window to nail him before he makes any more super-suiciders.

TEFIBI
Sir? I've got an incoming call from some joker calling himself **Codename: Alias.**

PANEL THREE

Inset. Santini pissed.

SANTINI
WHAT!?!

PANEL FOUR

Inside Terns' office. Shot from behind, the wreck of the Terns-thing that used to look human staggers to its feet, holding a StormWatch PDI dogtag in its hand to speak into it. It should still have six arms or so.

SANTINI (OVER RADIO)
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING BREAKING COVER!?!

SENATOR TERNS
Game's up. Citizen Soldier shot me in the face in front of a witness. Terns is officially dead and I need medical attention.

SANTINI (OVER RADIO)
If he shot you in the face, why don't you need a coroner instead of a doctor?

21 CONTINUED:

PANEL FIVE

Still from behind. The Terns-Thing scratches his head with a baseball-mitt-sized claw-shaped hand

SENATOR TERNS/CODENAME ALIAS
Colonel Santini, I can alter my shape and form at will. It wasn't hard to shift my brain down into my lower abdomen. Problem is, I'm still bleeding out a hole in my head.

SANTINI (OVER RADIO)
We'll notify Doctor Grunier that you're on your way. Make your way to one of the exits and we'll open a Project Entry portal for you to hook up with us.

SENATOR TERNS/CODENAME ALIAS
Could you make it closer to this office?

PANEL FIVE

Frontal shot C/Up on the face of Codename: Alias. He looks like the Unknown Soldier without his mask on. EWWWWW! (I'll send reference) Plus, he's still got a bullet wound gushing blood down his face making things worse.

SENATOR TERNS/CODENAME ALIAS
I'm really not going to blend in amongst the general public right now.

SANTINI
I'll see what we can do. Hold on.

SANTINI
Okay, Tefibi wants to know if you're up to a two-meter standing broad jump?

PANEL SIX

Santini smiles into his radio.

SENATOR TERNS/CODENAME ALIAS (OVER RADIO)
What the Hell for?

SANTINI
Just run and jump through the glowing circle, son and be sure you're ready to tuck and roll when you land in New York. We'll rendezvous with you for a debrief soon...

PAGE 22

PANEL ONE

Tefibi, Santini, Galena, Pinckney, Jukko and Jaeger step out of Project Entry Portals in a semi-circle in front of George Washington's Tomb. The steel gates have been torn open. Nice crossfire, if someone had been in the kill zone.

SANTINI (CAPTION)
...We've got someplace to stop off at first.

BORDERLESS LOCATION CAPTION
Mount Vernon, Virginia

SANTINI
Place is empty, Tefibi, you sure he's here?

PANEL TWO

Santini looks at Tefibi.

PLAQUE ABOVE TOMB
Within this Enclosure Rest the remains of General George Washington.

TEFIBI
Looks like he just cut out, sir, he's on the move again, looks like back to the Microtouch campus in Ohio.

SANTINI
Then what the hell was he doing here? Why make an extra stop?

PINCKNEY (O.S.)
Sir? You might want to take a look at this...

PANEL THREE

Inside the tomb of George Washington. Downshot on the sarcophogus of George Washington. See the photo reference page. The lid of the marble tomb reads "WASHINGTON" and has an eagle and a seal above it. The coffin itself is empty. Tefibi reads a plaque on the wall.

SARCOPHAGUS LID
WASHINGTON.

TEFIBI
"When we assumed the Soldier, we did not lay aside the Citizen." Citizen Soldier? Holy Fucking Shit.

SANTINI
Looks like we just discovered just how far back Citizen Soldier's spirit goes.

22 CONTINUED:

PANEL FOUR

Santini, rubs his forehead.

SANTINI
Lock and load, people. We've got unfinished business with the Father of the United States.

TO BE CONTINUED!

REFERENCE FOR THIS ISSUE:

WASHINGTON D.C.
National Gallery West Building:
http://www.nga.gov/feature/thenandnow/mall.htm

Supreme Court Virtual Tour:
http://www.oyez.org/oyez/tour/big/street-from-introduction

Map of the Washington Mall:
http://www.dcvisit.com/images/mapmall.jpg
http://www.kestan.com/dcstock/landmarks/
http://www.kestan.com/dcstock/whitehs--cap--sc/index.htm
http://www.kestan.com/travel/dc/monument/

George Washington's Tomb & Sarcophagus:
http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~wcarr1/Lossing1/Chap40.html
http://www.vicioso.com/Travel/Destinations/MtVernon/WashingtonTomb
.html
http://users.ntplx.net/~bbarker/deadprez/gw.htm

THE US CAPITOL COMPLEX:
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/art/freedom_4.htm
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/capitol/dome_1.htm
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/capitol/dome.htm
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/capitol/dome_xsec.htm
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/capitol/dome_xsec_canopy.htm
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/art/freedom.htm

http://clerkkids.house.gov/parent_teacher/complex/map.php

http://www.senate.gov/vtour/1high.htm

CITIZEN SOLDIER TIMELINE
1948 - HUAC kills Citizen Soldier
1955 - 7 yrs old, lynched
1972 - 17 yrs old, Hell no, I won't go.
1973 - International Operations kills him.
2003 - 30 years old, Back with a Vengence.